THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, purchase order has been placed for procurement of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) for 6 airports namely Leh, Lucknow, Vadodara, Coimbatore, Pune and Jaipur at a cost of Rs. 1.81 crores. Hi-tech security arrangements including installation of new gadgets at Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad airports are under consideration/trial.

(c) Prescribed security arrangements at the airports which, *inter-alia*, include security of passengers, their cabin baggage, hold baggage, security of cargo etc. and physical security measures like perimeter protection, access control, both to the airport and the aircraft, are already in force. Threat perception to civil aviation sector is reviewed from time to time, especially in the wake of heightened threat, like Mumbai bomb blasts. Security arrangements at airports are suitably strengthened through enhanced security checks, intensive surveillance, introducing secondary security checks at the ladder point etc. during such contingencies.

National Competition Policy

2132. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is as yet no broader policy framework underlining the role of competition in the reform process even though the country is following a policy of market oriented economic reforms for the past one and a half decade;

(b) whether Government are considering adoption of a National Competition Policy for ensuring consistency and coherence across various Government policies on the touchstone of competition; and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (c) As a part of the broad policy framework on competion, Government has already taken legislative and administrative measures to enable competition issues in the economy to be addressed. These include enactment of the competition Act, 2002, which provides, *inter alia*, for the establishment of a Commission to prevent practices having adverse effect

on competition, to promote and sustain competition in market, to protect the interests of consumers and to ensure freedom of trade carried on by other participants in markets, in India, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Competition Commission of India was established under the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002 in October, 2003. Due to legal challenges, this Commission could, however, not be made fully operational. The Government has introduced the Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2006 in the Lok Sabha for proposing amendments to the Competition Act, 2002. The Commission would be fully operationalised once the Amendments to the Competition Act are enacted. In the meantime, competition advocacy and capacity building activity in competition matters has been taken up..with regulation of competition being provided through law, it would be possible to ensure a consistent and coherent approach in the matter. While policy formulation is an evolutionary process, at present, there is no National Competition Policy document as such under consideration of the Government.

Slow process of winding up of companies

2133. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of winding up of companies in the Country is very slow and large number of winding up petitions are lying before the office of Official Liquidators appointed by his Ministry;

(b) what steps his Ministry is taking to speed up the process; and

(c) how many winding up petitions are lying before the office of Official Liquidator attached to the Delhi High Court and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir. As on 31.3.2005 there were 6259 winding up petitions filed before different Courts in the country.

(b) Process of winding up of companies in the country is as per the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The Official Liquidators, also appointed under the Act, assist the respective Courts in disposal of the petitions for winding up of companies. To enable the process of winding up to be completed in a time bound manner, the Companies Act, 1956 has